

heated room. No parasites were present, which suggests to me that at some time, perhaps during a slightly warmer climatic period, the population of *Pontania* became so small as to cause the extinction of its parasite community. The nearest potential parasites are those attacking *Pontania bridgmanii* (Cameron) and *P. pedunculi* (Hartig) which form galls on *Salix aurita* L. These two sawflies are found no closer than 2 miles from the population of *crassipes*, and at least 400m. lower. — A. D. LISTON, 99 Clermiston Road, Edinburgh, EH12 6UU.

RE-DISCOVERY OF *TACHYPEZA HEERI* ZETT. AND *TACHYPEZA TRUNCORUM* (FALL.) (DIPTERA, EMPIDIDAE) IN SCOTLAND. — On 15 June 1982 at Dalnapot Hill, Elgin VC 95 (O.S. grid ref. NJ 1637) I captured several *Tachypeza* which were walking on bark at the base of a live birch tree. Later examination that evening under the microscope showed these to be the very common and widespread species *Tachypeza nubila* Mg. with the exception of a single female *T. heeri* Zett. Hitherto, the latter species was known in Britain from only two females, the first taken on 6 July 1902 at Dunphail, Elgin (F. Jenkinson) and the second on 1 August 1935 at Aviemore, Inverness (C. G. Lamb), the records given by Collin, J. E. (1961), *British Flies*, 6: *Empididae* (Cambridge Univ. Press).

On 22 June 1982 in Glen Tromie, Easternness VC 96 (NN 7897) I found a single large, dark male *Tachypeza* on the trunk of an ancient alder beside the River Tromie. This proved to be *T. truncorum* Fall. previously recorded as British from a male taken on 27 June 1917 at Rannoch, Perthshire (J.J.F.X.King) and a female found in June 1905 at Nethy Bridge, Inverness (C.G.Lamb), see Collin (*op.cit.*). *T. truncorum* is common throughout Scandinavia and *T. heeri* is rather uncommon in northern Fennoscandia according to Chvála, M. (1975), *The Tachydromiinae (Dip. Empididae) of Fennoscandia and Denmark (Fauna Ent. Scand. 3)*. In Scotland these two species are apparently much rarer than *T. nubila*, and it will be interesting to see whether further intensive recording will reveal them to be present outside the north-east highlands, where the great majority of boreal Diptera have been found. — Dr. I. F. G. McLEAN, Nature Conservancy Council 19/20 Belgrave Square London SW1X 8PY.

*EUPITHECIA VALERIANATA* HB.: VALERIAN PUG (LEP.: GEOMETRIDAE) IN SUTHERLAND. — The light which operates at Rogart in Sutherland (O.S. grid ref. NC 754 007) as part of the Rothamsted Insect Survey (Site number 421) produced two individuals of this species during July 1983 — one, a male, on the night of 6th/7th and another, a female on the 25th/26th. The identity of both specimens was confirmed by examination of the genitalia.

This record constitutes a large extension northwards of *valerianata*'s known distribution. The species is not known to be migratory and there is no reason to suspect that it has suddenly started to